

## Conclusion of the Description of the Invention

The foregoing is illustrative of the present invention and is not to be construed as limiting thereof. Although a few exemplary embodiments of this invention have been described, those skilled in the art will readily appreciate that many modifications are possible in the exemplary embodiments without materially departing from the novel teachings and advantages of this invention. Accordingly, all such modifications are intended to be included within the scope of this invention as defined in the claims. In the claims, means-plus-function clauses are intended to cover the structures described herein as performing the recited function and not only structural equivalents but also equivalent structures. Therefore, it is to be understood that the foregoing is illustrative of the present invention and is not to be construed as limited to the specific embodiments disclosed, and that modifications to the disclosed embodiments, as well as other embodiments, are intended to be included within the scope of the appended claims. The invention is defined by the following claims, with equivalents of the claims to be included therein.

## Claims

What is claimed is:

Claim 1. A method for the processing and displaying of test results of one or more tests taken by a plurality of test-takers, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) obtaining, with respect to each such test, the test itself, said test having a plurality of items;
- (b) obtaining the item responses of test-takers taking such test;
- (c) determining appropriate skill categories necessary for a correct response for each of said items, so as to report each of said test-takers' skill-specific performance on the test;
- (d) assessing the extent to which each item on the test assesses one or more of the skills determined in step (c) ; and

- (e) calculating a score for each student's performance in each of said skill categories.

Claim 2. A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising the step of calculating the scores of a group within skill categories, said group defined as a plurality of test-takers.

Claim 3. A method in accordance with claim 2, further comprising the step of generating evaluation and formative statements for individual test-takers and groups.

Claim 4. The method in accordance with claim 3, further comprising the step of organizing instructional material based on the content of the test.

Claim 5. The method in accordance with claim 4, further comprising the step of displaying Test results and instructional material to individuals.